



TIRANA INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

T.I.F.F.

Alternative thoughts, similar Views

FAMA
FOUNDATION ART MEDIA ALBANIA

organize:

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www.tiranafilmfest.com

FAMA Edition



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Free

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORTS OF ALBANIA

Franco Nero, Guest of Honor in T.I.F.F '03

The Actor of About 145 films in Tirana

Present in the Grand Gala Crowning Big Prizes



In the film "Incriminated Police"



In the film "Keoma"

The famous Italian actor Franco Nero, become well-known for Albanians since in 1970-1980 will arrive as guest of honor in Tirana Film Festival on Sunday (December 7). Nero,

hero of more than 145 films will participate in the Grand Gala that will be organized in the Palace of Congresses in Tirana, on December 7, giving thus honor to the finalization of the first International Festival of Film taking place in Tirana.

Known as a protagonist of Western films, Franco Nero who has been so much identified by the media with the character of Django, has presented in the competition of this festival with the short film "The Last Gunman", directed by Alessandro Dominici and with the music of the extraordinary Ennio Morricone.

Dominici, present during the days of the festival, said that before this film was made he did not personally know Franco Nero. But, no other than Him could act in an Western film... The contacts with the agency representing the great actor and the passion Nero still nourishes for this kind of films was also the story of realizing the film, that by competing in T.I.F.F. '03 brought at the same time the famous actor in Tirana.

Acting in more than 40 national and international festivals

and winner of several awards in Italy, Portugal, and Chile, this film realized in 2002 does not have a real script as it does nothing but develops the subject.

Considered as a film for the man who accepts fatal challenges through the optimism, the main character commits suicide with a smile in his face, just to show the challenge against himself, or even more against the humanity.

Franco Nero, from Parma (north Italy) showed early his talent since he was a teenager. The first film he made dates back in 1964, "The Bible", which would consist of a crucial point in his future career. He has collaborated with many directors, including Carlo Lizzani, Damiano Damiani, Luigi Zampa, Luis Bunuel, Salvatore Samperi, Elio Petri Marco Bellocchio.

The Albanian public knows him from the serial film "The Judge", "Corruption in the Palace of Justice", but also from other names which he became famous with in the cinematographic career, "Django", (1966), a film he continued in 1987,



In the film "White Fate"



In the film "Scandall"

"Dropout", in 2000. Meantime, he has realized another film with his son Carlo Gabriel Nero (director), while together they have also recorded a song for an organization of charity.



Today in Millenium 2

Artistic, Animation, Documentar, Experimental/Student in Fourth Day of Competition

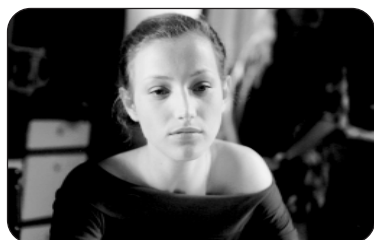
1. Ido Haar - Israel

Tricks (fiction)

12 min. 30 sec.

Naa'ma comes home after a long stay abroad. She meets her cousin Eitan with whom she played under the fig tree as a child. The encounter awakens old memories and feelings. But this time it's not child's play...

our actions, and what happens when the practicalities of life such as other people's desires, the force of gravity and babies complicate matters.



2. Vasjan Lami - Albania

The Beggarman (fict.), 20 min.

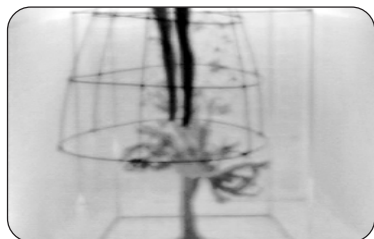
The story of a pretended beggar, who hides half of his leg and begs for money in the street. One day his leg becomes gangrened and he has to cut it really. He is ready to give all the money he has gathered to rescue the other half of his leg.



3. Amal Kenawy - Egypt

The Room (exp.), 10 min.

A philosophic confrontation between the interior and the exterior, and all this to exist within the abstracted emotions fluctuating between memories and the reality we experience.

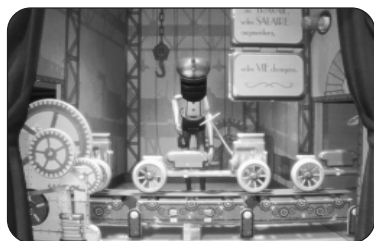


4. O.Barre, N.Bruchet,

S.Devynck - France

Louis (anim.), 5 min. 17 sec.

Something reveals the backstage of his show.

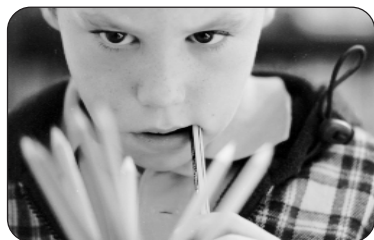


5. Marco Besas - Spain

The Number (fiction),

12 min. 30 sec.

A simple pencil which has his feelings, his fears and his dreams. This is the subject of the film.



6. Eno Milkani - Albania

Abandoned Eden (doc.)

20 min.

In a village, a fist of old people the presence of a baby makes all happy. Their happiness won't last forever; this baby will follow the destiny of his young parents.



7. Martin Jones - UK

At Dawning (fiction), 12 min.

A film about the infantile wish to escape the consequences of

8. Damien O'Connor - Ireland

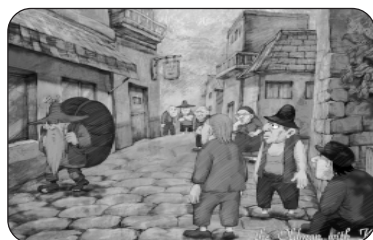
Le Dog (anim.), 9 min.

A short film which places focus over the bestiality and murder.

9. Audrius Stonys - Lithuania

The Last Car (art.), 28 min.

Father and son - strolling musicians. One encounter is going to change the routine of their life.



10. Rolando Colla

- Switzerland

Objection III (fiction), 9 min.

An Algerian man with an artificial leg is caught by border

guards trying to enter Switzerland with a group of refugees. He is sent back to Germany with his artificial leg left behind. Finding the prosthesis, the Swiss immigration officials respond nervously as no one wants to be responsible for it.

11. Woonki Kim S. - Korea

The Old Man with Knapsack (anim.), 11 min.

A boy already grown old turns back to his village after a long time. A black knapsack he always carries triggers village people's curiosity.

12. JC Hyng - Taiwan

Green Rose (fiction), 12 min.

This is the story of a political murder that goes unsolved in Taiwan, revealed without a line of dialogue, only four beautiful songs.

13. Kasumi - USA

Free Your Mind (exp.)

5 min. 25 sec.

Theme and variations on an excursion into the subconscious mind. "Free your mind from the consciousness of all body weight and just let go. Just let go, deeper and deeper."

14. José Antonio Bonet - Spain

Russian Lessons (fict.), 20 min.

A blind date between a lonely man and a mysterious foreign lady.

15. J.Moncomble, I.P.Leduc,

J.Bolbach, C.Gerard - France

White Night (anim.)

5 min. 54 sec.

Mysterious conversation of the psychologist and his patient.

16. Anne Cleary & Dennis

O'Connelly - France

Scenes from the Boulevard (doc.), 14 min.

A run down and overcrowded Parisien boulevard becomes the set to produce "Scenes from the Boulevard", a series of short digital films.

Andrea Rocco on T.I.F.F. '03

Albanian Film, An Albanian Identity

Albanian Directors Reflect the Change Albania Has Undergone

- *When did you learn about the organization of this festival?*

- I learned about the organization of this festival one year ago. I was in Albania to assist in the establishment of "Tirana Film Commission". It is there that I come to know the organizers of this festival Ilir Butka and Agron Domi. I was impressed by the idea to help in the renaissance of a cinema with a great film culture. When the two organizers invited me to become member of the jury I accepted with pleasure.

- *How much did you know about the Albanian cinematography in your first visit in Tirana...?*

- Practically, I did not know anything about it. All I knew was that many films were realized during the communist regime in Albania, but that was it.

- *During these days many Albanian artists have presented their films. Which is your opinion on the quality of the films?*

- I would like to say something in general as I can't address them specifically. I have watched all the films presented by the Albanian authors. I would say that they are all interesting, be them fictions, documentaries, animated or experimental. It seems to me that their presentation is a description of the Albanian film identity, one that is quite different from the isolated reality they have lived in. I can see that Albanian artists reflect this change at their best.

- *Do you think that the short film should be given greater support?*

- I can say that possibilities are found to do this. The technology of these times can help in making films at a lower cost and this creates the space for the development of this genre. In my opinion, festivals are in-



Ilir Butka and Andrea Rocco

Andrea Rocco

Genova Film Commission - Italy

First Italian member of the International Film Commission Association (AFCI). Member of the new National Coordination of the Italian Film Commissions. Co-founder of Genova Film Commission and consultant for the foundation of Film Commission Umbria Region. Consultant of the Agency for the International Promotion of the Italian Cinema. Researcher in the high-tech cinema field. Collaborator for several Italian, Swiss and American medias, such as "L'Espresso", "Vogue Italia", "Gulliver", "Dove", "Il manifesto", "RAI-TV", "Cinema d'Oggi", "Cinema e Video".

il manifesto

WARTORI 5 DICEMBRE 2003

Tirana, la festa del «corto»

CINEMA In Albania, da oggi il festival dedicato ai film brevi

ANDREA ROCCO

È un avvenimento per molti versi di eccezione il primo Tirana Film Festival che apre i battenti oggi nella capitale albanese. 82 cortometraggi (compresi film d'animazione e sperimentali) di 30 paesi, con una consistente rappresentanza di opere albanesi, montenegrine, kosovare e bosniache, ma anche produzioni italiane, tedesche e americane, che fino a domenica 7 dicembre faranno di Tirana la capitale balcanica del cinema corto. Si tratta di una bella rivincita e di un segnale di speranza per Tirana che durante il governo di Enver Hodja era diventata un centro di produzione cinematografica di dimensioni quantitative straordinarie se parago-

nate alla taglia del paese. La società di stato Albafilm produceva in media 15 lungometraggi, 20 documentari e 16 film di animazione all'anno (un numero di titoli paragonabili a quelli prodotti oggi in Svezia), impiegando oltre 700 persone, quasi tutti nei grandi studios in stile realismo socialista chiamati «Shqipëria e Re». Poi la fine del regime che si è trascinato dietro un evento come la chiusura di Albafilm e la decadenza degli studios (che hanno davanti un destino ancora incerto).

Tirana arriva addirittura a perdere tutte le sue sale cinematografiche, vittime di speculazioni immobiliari di vario genere. Solo nel 2000, dopo una lunga battaglia condotta dall'allora ministro della

cultura Edi Rama, oggi diventato sindaco della città, riapre finalmente una sala di cinema, il Millennium 2, la stessa che ospiterà il Festival. «Fino a quattro anni fa dice il sindaco - questa città poteva essere paragonata ad una casa senza finestre. Oggi, con il primo International Film Festival, dalla finestra appena aperta possiamo gettare uno sguardo sui giardini dei sogni proposti dagli 82 film in concorso».

A dirigere e a organizzare il festival sono i cineasti albanesi Agron Domi e Ilir Butka, che con la creazione del Festival hanno lanciato una vera scommessa sul futuro dell'audiovisivo albanese. Presidente della giuria internazionale sarà il regista albanese Georgij Xhuvani.

teresting and offer a significant help in the development of this genre. Being attended by directors from all over the world, this festival is an opportunity of development not only for the cinema but also for your Capital, Tirana, which through the organization of these events can

turn into a place of promoting the film in particular and art in general.

- *Have you received any request of collaboration by the participating artists?*

- I live in Genoa and I believe that there exist all chances to establish a cooperation be-

tween our cities. Genoa will be the world Capital of the European cinematography, and this is an excellent occasion to collaborate.

We already have a joint project with Ilir Butka, a short film between the fiction and documentary. It will be realized in Genoa and Tirana. Well, this is one of the things we can do, however there are also many others of this kind.

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In T.I.F.F. '03

A Jury of the Media Will Give the "Media Award"

A jury made of well-known names of the Albanian journalism will give the "Media Award" during the Grand Gala that will be taking place in the Palace of Congresses in Tirana, on December 7 in the evening.

Being perhaps not so concise on parameters required by the cinematography, media representatives will know how to select their favorite film, focusing on the delicacy of the phenomena or the social impact they have.

The selection of 81 films out of 300 ones presented for this competition has been viewed also from the prospect of the messages of social problems they depict, being in this way more tangible for the situation Albania is undergoing, making a great gallery of phenomena.



Alba Malltezi (chairman of the jury), editor-in-chief of News 24 TV said that "the organization of this festival is an event as much as an opportunity for the public," and that "the entire festival has an admirable extension in geography

and genres it has brought." But, according to Malltezi, it seems like, as always, the culture does not find the same its echo as the politics does. "Camera projectors continue to focus on politicians and not to shed their light on this joining of cultures

occurring in Tirana these days," she says.

Critical at the same time on the media itself, Malltezi goes further on saying that "despite of the fact that this festival has been covered in the media, the reports and chronicles on it are apparently not yet warm, while the opinion of experts still lacks." Completing the structures a festival needs, the organization of a jury with media representatives is however a judgement of the place it should have in the society.

This jury includes Migjen Kelmendi (editor-in-chief of Prishtina-based Java newspaper), Hektor Pustina (AP photo reporter), Sokol Shameti (Klan magazine) and Ingrid Mukeli (director in the Albanian Public Television, TVSH).

OPINION



Amal el Kenawy

- You are participating in T.I.F.F. 2003 with an experimental film. Why the experimental film?

- I have studied cinema and graduated in the Academy of Fine Arts in Egypt. I have worked very much with video installations using different techniques, and during this time I did not prefer to chose any techniques. It was something between the metaphysic and the dream. The story did not have a narrative style, but only picture. That is why I have chosen the experimental category of film. You work with

I Don't Judge Films Based on Categories or Places

many things at the same time. In my opinion, it is important to express ideas not techniques.

- Do you feel free in the experimental film?

- Yes. There are no rules to work on. You have many choices to express what is inside. I feel so free working with experimental film.

- Is there any tradition of the experimental film in Egypt?

- Well, no there isn't any tradition of this kind. For example, there was not a category of the experimental film in Cairo Festival and there is no school teaching that.

- What do you think about Albanian films?

- So far, I have seen some but I don't have any specific idea.

- Can you make a comparison between the Albanian and

Egyptian film?

- Well, I am not even interested to do so. I don't judge the movies based on categories or places. For example, I have noticed here in Albania that people have the ability to accept the experimental film, while in my country this is scarce. There is an art society there and no one moves be-

yond it.

- If another festival is held the next year are you going to participate?

- This is the first edition of Tirana Film Festival, but it seems a fact that things have been taken very seriously. If the next year they invite me again to participate, I would like to be present.

Projection of the films in T.I.F.F. '03

Session I

All the day, Time: 11.00 - 13.00
15.00 - 17.00

Enter for the public free

Session II

All the day, Time: 18.00 - 20.00
20.30 - 22.00

Enter for the public with tickets